



Congressman Dave Reichert  
Washington's 8th Congressional District

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## **REICHERT SECURES 45 MILLION IN FINAL VERSION OF TRANSPORTATION BILL**

*WA-08 yields top level funding for high priority projects*

**WASHINGTON, DC—** U.S. Rep. Dave Reichert today obtained \$45 million in the final version of the House transportation bill, H.R. 3. In the end dealings between Committee and Leadership as the bill came to a vote, Reichert secure an additional \$6.3 million to the \$38.7 million received in Committee.

“This bill responds to the unique transportation needs of the region,” said Reichert. “We lobbied hard for all of the district’s projects. The House has recognized our problems and delegated the appropriate funding to fix them. I’m excited to see these projects get started.”

Along with 16 high priority projects originally receiving funding, two additional projects, Interstate 5 Interchange in Kent and Cross Base Highway, received resources in the version which passed on the floor today.

“This bill has an incredible, positive impact for our district,” said Reichert. “It creates jobs--each construction project, highway repair and safety program requires new employees to get up and running. This is a positive and tangible impact for those in the district.”

“H.R. 3 will put Americans to work by creating the kind of jobs that support families and increase our tax base,” Transportation Committee Chairman Don Young said. “It is much needed legislation that will move our country toward a stronger economy. I appreciate having the assistance of Committee members like Dave Reichert, who is an energetic advocate for his constituents and their transportation needs.”

For every one billion dollars spent on road construction, 48,000 jobs are created.  
Of the nation’s freight, 67 percent moves on highways.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert praised the bill’s passage, saying that economists believe that our ability to compete internationally is tied to the quality of our infrastructure.

“We live in an era of just-in-time delivery and an increasingly global economy. It is unacceptable that traffic congestion leads to 3.6 billion hours of delay each year.”

The total price tag of H.R. 3 reflects the Administration’s proposal of \$283.9 billion over six years.

The following high priority projects were included in today’s bill:

**Bellevue:**

\$11.5 million for I-405/downtown circulation:

This project will extend NE 2<sup>nd</sup> and NE 10<sup>th</sup> Streets from 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE eastward on bridges over I-405 to intersect with 116<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE.

**WSDOT:**

\$4 million for I-90 Two Way HOV Lane:

This project will provide two-way transit and HOV operations on I-90 between Seattle and Bellevue.

**Newcastle:**

\$1 million for Coal Creek Parkway:

This project is the replacement of an aging, two-lane bridge with a new, four-lane bridge that increases traffic flow, improves pedestrian and traffic safety, and meets modern seismic standards.

**Issaquah:**

\$5 million for the Issaquah SE Bypass:

This project involves the construction of a new bypass arterial on the eastern edge of the City of Issaquah. The proposed 1.5 mile roadway will provide a new connection to I-90 at the new Sunset Interchange from the Issaquah Hobart Road.

**Issaquah Trolley:**

\$250,000 for the Issaquah Valley Trolley (IVT):

This project will revitalize the downtown Issaquah area. IVT is seeking funding for Stage 1 to make an existing trolley car operational. The trolley will run just over a mile and connect a senior center and community center with a hospital, running through the business district.

**WSDOT**

\$7.5 million for SR 18 Maple Valley to I-90:

This project will widen SR 18 from Maple Valley to I-90 and will modify interchange of SR 18 and I-90.

**Maple Valley:****\$1 million for SR 169 and SR 516 improvements:**

This project will improve the intersection of State Highway 169 and State Highway 516 within the limits of Maple Valley. The project would address accident problems and relieve congestion consistent with the approved comprehensive plan for Maple Valley.

**Mountains to Sound Greenway:****\$600,000 for Scenic Byway Acquisition:**

This project will acquire 22.63-acre property and will fill one of the few remaining gaps in a 100-mile scenic highway corridor.

**Auburn:****\$500,000 for M Street SE (29<sup>th</sup> Street SE to 37<sup>th</sup> Street SE):**

This project will rehabilitate “M” Street SE between 29<sup>th</sup> Street SE and 37<sup>th</sup> Street SE (approximately ½ mile), including construction of new pedestrian facilities. The corridor is a primary walking route to and from 3 schools including two elementary and one middle school and is currently lacking pedestrian facilities.

**Kent:****\$500,000 Willis Street BNSF Railroad Grade Separation Project:**

This project will construct a bridge for the BNSF railroad and reconstruct Willis Street underneath the BNSF tracks. This project is a critical step towards providing a more seamless passage for rail and truck freight through the Green River Valley.

**\$500,000 for Willis Street UP Railroad Grade Separation Project:**

The Willis Street (SR 516) UP Railroad Grade Separation Project will construct a bridge for the Union Pacific railroad and reconstruct Willis Street to pass underneath the UP tracks.

**\$1.35 million for S. 272<sup>nd</sup> St. at Interstate 5 Interchange – Phase 1:**

This project will construct a single point urban interchange under I-5 in two phases. Phase 1 will include replacement of the northbound I-5 overpass with new structure, construction of HOV/Transit direct access ramps from I-5 to a S. 272<sup>nd</sup> Street, a new HOV/Transit traffic signal, and replacement of the 40-year old pavement on I-5 for roughly 3/4 mile on either side of S. 272<sup>nd</sup> Street. Phase 2 will replace the southbound overpass and complete the Single Point Urban Interchange (SPUI).

**Renton:****\$1 million for SR-167 HOV/SW 27<sup>th</sup> Street/Strander Boulevard Connection:**

This project will move the Union Pacific rail line to the current BNSF track. This move will allow further construction on Strander Boulevard.

**Enumclaw:****\$1.5 million for Welcome Center off SR 410:**

This project will build a Welcome Center within the Chinook Scenic Byway. The Chinook Scenic Byway is a section of State Route 410 designated as an All American Road.

**Buckley:**

\$2 million for new alignments in Buckley:

This project will provide for the extension of the 112<sup>th</sup> Street corridor, located west of State Route 165 and the Ryan Road corridor, located east of State Route 165 to a new intersection with State Route 165.

**Redmond:**

\$1 million for ITS:

This project will complete the fifth and final phase of Redmond's multi-phase effort to upgrade, interconnect, coordinate and optimize old and outdated traffic signal control systems. In addition, this project will provide improved detection and monitoring of Redmond's transportation system to provide better incident response and traveler information.

**North Bend:**

\$800,000 for North Bend Park and Ride:

This project will plan, design and construct 75-100 spaces for a park and ride facility in the City of North Bend.

**Pierce County:**

\$5 million for Cross Base Highway:

The project is a new six-mile highway that will link I-5 with the mid-Pierce County area, including the Frederickson Employment Center. The new highway will cross portions of Fort Lewis Army Base and McChord Air Force Base and will include 4 lanes (2 each direction) with a new interchange at I-5, a grade separated crossing of the BNSF line that will accommodate future commuter and high speed freight rail, improved access and security to Fort Lewis and McChord, and signalized intersections at strategic locations.

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